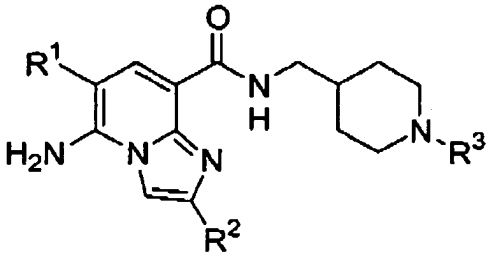
IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

13. (new) A compound of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein,

R^1 represents hydrogen or a halogen;

R^2 represents methyl or ethyl;

R^3 represents (a) 3 to 6 carbon branched alkyl or (b) 3 to 6 carbon straight or branched alkyl which is substituted by 1 to 6 carbon alkoxy; with the proviso that when said alkoxy substitutes a terminal carbon, then said alkyl (b) is branched alkyl;

including a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (new) The compound of claim 13, wherein R^1 represents hydrogen or chlorine.

15. (new) The compound of claim 13, wherein R^1 represents chlorine.

16. (new) The compound of any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein R^3 represents isobutyl or tert-butylethyl, either of which may be substituted by methoxy.

17. (new) A compound selected from:

5-amino-*N*-[(1-isobutylpiperidin-4-yl)methyl]-2-methylimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-*N*-{[1-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)piperidin-4-yl]methyl}-2-ethylimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-2-ethyl-*N*-{[1-(2-methoxy-2-methylpropyl)piperidin-4-yl]methyl}imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-2-methyl-*N*-{[1-(2-methoxy-2-methylpropyl)piperidin-4-

yl]methyl}imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-*N*-[(1-isobutylpiperidin-4-yl)methyl]-2-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

any of which may take the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

18. (new) The compound of claim 13, which is formulated as a pharmaceutical composition alone or in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (new) A method of agonizing 5-HT_4 receptors comprising administering to a mammalian subject the compound of claim 13, alone or in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

20. (new) A method of antagonizing 5-HT_4 receptors comprising administering to a mammalian subject the compound of claim 13, alone or in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.